

Linn County Sheriff Jim Yon will not seek re-election

ALBANY — Linn County Sheriff Jim Yon announced today that he will not seek re-election in 2022.

Yon was appointed sheriff in June 2018 by the Board of Commissioners after the retirement of Sheriff Bruce Riley and he was elected to a four-year term of office in November 2018.

He is a South Albany High School graduate and has a bachelor's degree in law enforcement from Western Oregon University.

Yon started his LCSO career as a resident deputy in Harrisburg and worked in numerous areas including traffic, sex crimes, narcotics and the support division before being promoted to undersheriff in 2014.

Yon released the following letter explaining his decision:

To the citizens of Linn County:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given to me as your Sheriff, and more importantly, the support you continue to give the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

Last week, I celebrated my 28-year work anniversary with the Sheriff's Office. I have always loved serving in the county I was raised in, and I have had an amazing career. I honestly feel like I'm the luckiest man alive because I have been able to do a job that I love, in a place that I love.

It has been my great honor and privilege to be your Sheriff, and I have worked every day to do the



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very best for the citizens of Linn County and the employees at the Sheriff's Office.

With careful consideration and much discussion with my family, I have come to the decision not to seek re-election this next year. I have been thinking about this for several months knowing the filing period for the next election was coming up. This has been an extremely difficult choice for me to make. The Sheriff's Office is my second home and I have built many wonderful relationships over the years with citizens and co-workers alike.

I wouldn't have made this decision if my command staff wasn't prepared.

I selected Michelle Duncan to be Undersheriff because she is the most qualified to lead this office. She will be a fantastic leader and a great example for others. Office continuity is essential. Maintaining the services, we provide to you is of the utmost importance.

Michelle's experience and knowledge in what it takes to operate the Sheriff's Office will make her transition to Sheriff seamless; and you, the citizens of Linn County, will be in great hands.

September 21, 2021